

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority
377 Cedarcrest Drive
Duncansville, PA 16635

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority, held on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Robin Cadwallader.

In attendance were 5 Authority Members as follows: Robin Cadwallader, Edward Silvetti, Rodney Patterson, Ted Ventre, and Brendan Peterson.

Also in attendance were Tim M^cGaw, Manager; Katie M^cGaw, Administrative Assistant; Pat Fanelli, Solicitor; and Dave Cunningham, Engineer.

VISITORS: Jeff Long

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of August 7, 2024. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Silvetti VOTE: 5 Yes.

Motion was made to approve the Payroll & Bills for August 2024. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Ventre VOTE: 5 Yes.

Pat Fanelli stated that he had a legal matter to discuss in Executive Session at the end of tonight's meeting.

Dave Cunningham reported that we met with PennVEST to discuss the Reservoir Road Sewer Expansion Project. In their initial analysis, they determined it is very unlikely BTWSA will receive any Grant money but would probably receive an offer for a low-interest loan. Generally, what this means is an interest rate of 1% for the first 5 years, increasing to 2.2% for years 6-20. Dave presented various scenarios for ways to pay for Contract 3 and the impact it would have on all our customers, ranging from a monthly increase of \$3.25 up to \$7.75. Motion was made to authorize Keller Engineers to apply to PennVEST for a funding package for the Reservoir Road Sewer Expansion Project. MOTION: Ventre SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 5 Yes.

Dave stated that DEP is requiring Keller Engineers to update the ACT 537 Sewage Facilities Plan before issuing permits for the Reservoir Road Sewer Expansion Project. This could delay the start of our Reservoir Road Project by 4-5 months.

Pat's office is almost finished preparing the Easement Agreements for the residents in Contract 1 and Contract 2. Once we receive the language from Trina Illig that is to be included in our letter, we will collate the documents and mail them to each future customer. Included in this letter will be Meeting Dates with Open Office Hours for the residents to stop in, ask questions, and potentially sign their easement agreements.

Dave reported that new information has come to light regarding the sewer system in the old Stowell Farm area. Up to now, we believed it was Hollidaysburg's Sewer System that was backing up into our sewer system during rain events. Upon further investigation, it was discovered the problem area is owned by BTWSA, not Hollidaysburg. Tim feels the flume in the metering manhole is causing restriction of

flow during storm events, causing backups in the system. He would like to replace the metering manhole and possibly up to 550 feet of sewer main. This improvement should help with the sanitary sewer backing up during rain events.

Given that BTWSA has identified the problem in the old Stowell Farm area and intends to fix it, Dave feels more comfortable issuing Jeff Long a Capacity Letter for his proposed Mattern Woods Greystone facility. This retirement village is only in the planning stages, but Mr. Long is proposing a 220-unit facility in the Brentwood Phase V area. This computes to 44 EDUs, which would increase the load on the existing sewer mains, warranting a remedy prior to construction. Dave stated that Keller Engineers could issue a Capacity Letter that recognizes BTWSA has problems in that area and that BTWSA intends to fix them. After discussion, motion was made to authorize Keller Engineers to issue a Capacity Letter to Jeff Long for his 220-unit Mattern Woods Graystone facility, pending conceptual approval by Hollidaysburg of the discussed collection system improvements in the old Stowell Farm area and coordination with Attorney Fanelli. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Ventre MOTION: 5 Yes.

Dave stated there is a DEP Professional Engineering Services Program (PES) that offers free services such as Capital Improvement Plans, Water Audits, and Leak Detection. This is something we may want to check into in greater detail.

The Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) will be issuing their decision on September 17 for the Local Share Allocations (LSA) Grant that we applied for. In our November 2023 application, we requested \$575,000.00 for the Applewood Sewer Replacement Project.

Tim McGaw reported that this past month BTWSA replaced 2 water valves on Wade Lane and rebuilt 2 valves at Jack's Way and Ted's Way.

Tim received a phone call from LJ Seidel of Stiffler McGraw about work being planned on the Newry Pump Station that will require the meter to be bypassed. Our Quarterly bill from Newry may have to be estimated during the time of construction.

Katie McGaw asked the Authority to review the completed Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System's Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) form in their folders. We are required to estimate our total payroll and what the total 2025 BTWSA contribution will be and submit this form by September 30, 2024. Motion was made to have Katie submit the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System's Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) form for 2025, as presented. MOTION: Ventre SECOND: Silveti VOTE: 5 Yes.

Katie presented a proposed Meeting Schedule for 2025. The BTWSA By-Laws state our meetings are to be held on the first Wednesday of each month. The proposed meeting Schedule reflects that schedule. Motion was made to approve the 2025 BTWSA Meeting Schedule as presented. MOTION: Patterson SECOND: Silveti VOTE: 5 Yes. Katie will advertise these dates in the Legal Section of the Altoona Mirror.

Katie stated she received a check from Freedom Township in the amount of \$4,454.11 as reimbursement for sewer treatment, as per their 2023 Reconciliation.

As a follow-up to discussion at last month's meeting regarding taxes we paid for Baker's Pump Station, Katie called the Tax Assessment Office, and they assured her this money will be reimbursed.

The meeting was recessed into Executive Session at 8:03 p.m. to discuss a legal matter.

Robin Cadwallader reconvened the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Robin announced the next BTWSA Meeting will be held on October 2, 2024, at 7 p.m.

Motion was made (at 8:17 p.m.) to adjourn the Meeting. MOTION: Peterson SECOND: Patterson VOTE: 5 Yes.

Signed as Secretary/Treasurer,



Rodney A. Patterson

